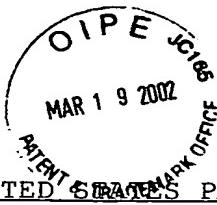


#5



7217/37567-X

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Masayuki Nishiguchi et al.

Serial No.: 09/489,774

Filed : January 24, 2000

For : AUDIO SIGNAL REPRODUCING APPARATUS

Group A.U.: 2644

Examiner : Xu Mei

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2002

Technology Center 2600

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service in first class mail addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231.

Jay H. Maioli
Reg. No. 27,213

Date
March 12, 2002

March 12, 2002
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
(212) 278-0400

TERMINAL DISCLAIMER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Your Petitioner, Sony Corporation, having a place of business at 7-35 Kitashinagawa 6-chome, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, Japan, represents that it is the assignee of all right, title, and interest in and to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/489,774 filed January 24, 2000, for AUDIO SIGNAL REPRODUCING APPARATUS,

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

7217/37567-X

which is a division of application Serial No. 08/747,910 filed November 12, 1996, which is a division of application Serial No. 07/600,818, filed October 22, 1990, now U.S. Patent 5,640,458, as evidenced by the assignment recorded in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 25, 1991 at Reel 5642, Frame 0823, and that it hereby disclaims the terminal part of any patent granted on said application Serial No. 09/489,774 that would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term defined in 35 USC 154 to 156, as shortened by any terminal disclaimer, of U.S. Patent 5,640,458 issued June 17, 1997 for AUDIO SIGNAL REPRODUCING APPARATUS and of which Sony Corporation is also the assignee of all right, title and interest, as evidenced by the assignment recorded on March 25, 1991 in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 5642, Frame 0823 during the prosecution of parent application Serial No. 07/600,818.

The undersigned has reviewed all the documents in the chain of title of said application Serial No. 09/489,774 and, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge and belief, title is in the assignee identified above.

Sony Corporation hereby agrees that any patent so granted on said Application Serial No. 09/489,774 shall be enforceable only for and during such period that the legal title shall be the same as the legal title to said U.S. Patent 5,640,458, this agreement to

7217/37567-X

run with any patent granted on said application Serial No. 09/489,774 and to be binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

In making this Disclaimer, Sony Corporation does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 USC 154 to 156 of said U.S. Patent 5,640,458, in the event that it later: expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 CFR 1.321, has all claims canceled by a reexamination certificate, is reissued, or is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as shortened by any terminal disclaimer.

This Terminal Disclaimer is to be effective only upon the issuance of a United States Patent on said Application Serial No. 09/489,774.

The undersigned as attorney of record is empowered to act on behalf of the assignee.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the

7217/37567-X

like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001, Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP

Date 03.12.02



Jay H. Maioli
Reg. No. 27,213
Attorney for Applicants

X The terminal disclaimer fee under 37 CFR 1.20(d) is included.

JHM:gr